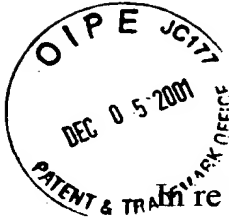


#6  
121401



Docket No. 4742

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the patent application of Ford et al.

Serial No. 09/493652

Filing date: January 28, 2000

Title: Mail Location Apparatus

Group Art Unit 3722 -- Examiner Mackey

RECEIVED  
DEC 10 2001  
TECHNICAL CENTER 2500

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED  
DEC 10 2001  
TC 3700 MAIL ROOM

AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend this application by substituting the enclosed amended pages of the application for the corresponding pages currently on file.

RECEIVED  
DEC 14 2001  
GROUP 3600

REMARKS

This is a reply to the office action of June 5, 2001.

The examiner rejected claims 1 - 11 as anticipated by Salomon, Patent No. 5640903.

The rejection is respectfully traversed. Anticipation requires that every element of a claim be met. In the present case, claim 1 requires, among other things, a sensor means having a face for engaging a corner of a mail item, and more particularly that the face be inclined to the first and second mutually perpendicular directions. The sensor structure of Figure 5 in Salomon, as identified by the examiner, manifestly does not disclose a sensor having a face which is inclined to the mutually perpendicular directions.

We respectfully request that the examiner reconsider the rejection of the claims over Salomon.

*Charles W. Fallow*

---

Charles W. Fallow  
Reg. No. 28,946

Shoemaker and Mattare, Ltd.  
2001 Jefferson Davis Highway  
Arlington, Virginia 22202

(703) 415-0810

December 5, 2001